

ABSTRACT

MAGNETIC HEAD HAVING THERMALLY ASSISTED WRITE HEAD WITH ENCAPSULATED HEATER ELEMENT, AND METHOD OF FABRICATION THEREOF

5 A magnetic head including a media heating device. Following the fabrication of
the heating device, a sacrificial layer of material is deposited to protect the heating device
during subsequent process steps. Thereafter, write head components, such as write head
induction coils and/or a P1 pole pedestal are fabricated above the heating device, and the
sacrificial layer is substantially consumed in protecting the heating device during the
10 aggressive etching and milling steps used to create those components. Further
components, including a second magnetic pole are thereafter fabricated to complete the
fabrication of the write head portion of the magnetic head. The sacrificial layer may be
comprised of alumina, or a material such as NiFe that can act as a seed layer for a
subsequent head components such as the P1 pole pedestal.